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Book Reviews

Griechische Geschichte. By KARL JULIUS BELOCH. Zweite Auflage.

Erster Band, Erste Abteilung (I, 1), 1912; Zweite Abteilung (I, 2), 1913; Zweiter Band, Erste Abteilung (II, 1), 1914. Strassburg: K. J. Trübner. Pp. xii+446 (I, 1); x+409 (I, 2); viii+432 (II, 1).

In these volumes of the new edition of Beloch's *Geschichte*, the most noteworthy additions are an introduction on Personality in History, a chapter on Aegean Geography, and a chapter on the Minoan-Mycenaean Age. I, 1 deals with the period before the Persian Wars; I, 2 is a long appendix to I, 1; II, 1 goes as far as the end of the Peloponnesian War.

There are three chapters (iii-v) on the prehistoric period. In chap. iii Beloch expresses his heterodox opinion that the peoples of "Doric" speech who migrated into the Peloponnesus were the *Achaeans* (pp. 89 ff.; also I, 2, pp. 76 ff.). His arguments, based chiefly on the distribution of the Greek dialects, are not convincing; and his view involves many difficulties. It fails to explain how at the close of the Mycenaean period, the world known to the Epic was transformed. In chap. iv, "Die Minoisch-mykenische Zeit," Beloch treats the subject from the historical rather than the archaeological viewpoint, and deduces from the monuments some interesting conclusions as to political, economic, and social conditions in the Minoan-Mycenaean period. He does not believe that there was any "thalassocracy of Minos." The absence of fortifications in Crete he explains as due to the isolation and security of the island; the wide dispersion of the place-name, *Minos*, was the result, he claims, of the spread of the worship of the Cretan bull-god, Minos. The question might be raised, How did this Cretan cult obtain such currency?

In both volumes the author gives adequate recognition to the social, cultural, and especially, the economic history. When he deals with political history, his lack of sympathy with democracy impairs, I think, his judgment both of men and of measures. He has embodied in his account of the early constitutional history of Athens some of the novel views of Niese and De Sanctis, and he adds others of his own—e.g., that Peisistratus was the creator of the ten "Cleisthnean" tribes (I, 2, pp. 329 ff.). He has availed himself of the information in the Oxyrhynchus *Hellenica* (referred to by Beloch as "Cratippus") in regard to the Boeotian League (II, 1, pp. 180 ff.). Criticism of the narrative history is beyond the scope of a short review.

The survey of the modern literature in I, 2, chap. ii, "Die neuere Forschung," is probably not intended to be complete; some of the omissions,

however, are curious. Beloch fails to mention Bury, Ferguson, or Gilbert Murray. The archaeological bibliography is unsatisfactory. The name of Durm does not occur among the authorities on architecture, and the only book on the minor arts that is cited is A. Murray's antiquated *Handbook of Archaeology*.

Beloch's methods and conclusions are sometimes open to criticism; nevertheless his history, considered as a whole, is a great synthesis. There is no other work in the field of Greek history that is at once so scientific, so modern, and so complete. The author's style is somewhat dry, but it lacks neither force nor distinction and is admirable for its simplicity and clearness.

WILLIAM D. GRAY

SMITH COLLEGE

The Military Annals of Greece from the Earliest Times to the Beginning of the Peloponnesian War. By WILLIAM L. SNYDER. Boston: Badger, 1915. 2 vols. Pp. ix+692. \$3.00 net.

Having given the author of *Military Annals* credit for an entirely genuine and praiseworthy interest in his subject, the reviewer has bestowed the only commendation, unfortunately, that the work deserves, for it is without the slightest scientific or literary value. The author lays claim to two distinctions: "He is the only American author of a history of Greece (with the exception of school textbooks), and he is one of the few to defend the truthfulness of Herodotus." The value of his defense of Herodotus is sufficiently indicated by the fact that "modern" critics of the historian are represented by Grote and Rawlinson, and no account is taken of any more recent investigations. As regards the other claim, the least excellent of the "school textbooks" that this country has produced could not possibly be inferior to the present work in accuracy, arrangement, or style. Mr. Snyder's book does not show the slightest trace of critical acumen, logical sequence of thought, or sense of proportion. The narrative is disjointed and inordinately repetitious. Scarcely a page is free from blemishes, which range from careless typographical errors, misspellings of simple words, and aimless punctuation, to misstatements of important facts. The English violates repeatedly every principle of good usage.

GEORGE MILLER CALHOUN

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

Homer and History. By WALTER LEAF. London: Macmillan, 1915. Pp. xiii+375. 12s.

This work, a companion to the same author's *Troy* is based on a series of lectures prepared to be delivered on the Harris Foundation at Northwestern University. The war prevented Dr. Leaf from visiting America. The book is now published with the hope that "it may serve as a protest, faint and feeble